

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Apparatus for straining water used in association with water supplies in fire fighting, said apparatus comprising:
 - a substantially closed, submergible, hollow structure enclosing a volume of space;
 - a connector mounted to said hollow structure over a first opening in said hollow structure; and
 - at least one sieve-like material mounted to said hollow structure over at least a second opening in said hollow structure.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one sieve-like material mounted over at least said second opening functions as a water inlet of said apparatus.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said connector mounted over said first opening functions as a water outlet of said apparatus.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said connector comprises a threaded hose connector.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one sieve-like material comprises an expanded metal plate with holes.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a pan; and
 - at least one stanchion connecting said pan to said hollow structure to support said hollow structure above said pan.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said hollow structure is shaped such that a bottom of said hollow structure provides at least one leg to hold a substantial part of said hollow structure above a surface on which said apparatus is placed.
8. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a pan; and
 - at least one stanchion connecting said pan to at least one leg of said hollow structure wherein said at least one leg is formed on a bottom of said hollow structure by shaping said bottom of said hollow structure.
9. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a pan including a flat bottom of a substantially rectangular shape and outwardly angled sidewalls; and
 - at least one stanchion connecting said pan to said hollow structure to support said hollow structure above said pan.
10. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a pan; and
 - at least one stanchion connecting said pan to at least one leg of said hollow structure wherein said at least one stanchion includes a slot such that said at least one leg of said hollow structure fits into said at least one slot.
11. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a pan having at least one stanchion to support said hollow structure above said pan, and wherein said at least one stanchion is connected to at least one leg of said hollow structure via at least one fastener.

12. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a pan having at least one stanchion to support said hollow structure above said pan, and wherein said at least one stanchion is connected to said hollow structure via at least one fastener.
13. A system for obtaining sieved water from a source for fighting fires, said system comprising:
 - a submergible strainer to take in water from a source of said water while keeping out foreign objects;
 - a tank to hold a volume of said strained water; and
 - a hose connected between said strainer and said tank to transport said strained water from said strainer to said tank such that said water can be used to fight a fire.
14. The system of claim 13 wherein said submergible strainer comprises:
 - a substantially closed, submergible, hollow structure enclosing a volume of space;
 - a threaded hose connector mounted to said hollow structure over a first opening in said hollow structure to allow connection of said hose to said strainer; and
 - at least one sieve-like material mounted to said hollow structure over at least a second opening in said hollow structure to allow said water to be taken into said hollow structure from said source while being sieved of said foreign objects.
15. The system of claim 13 further comprising a pump to create a difference in pressure between said strainer and said tank such that said water moves from said strainer to said tank via said hose.

16. The system of claim 13 wherein said tank is part of a truck.
17. The system of claim 15 wherein said pump is part of a truck.
18. A method to obtain sieved water from a source for fighting fires, said method comprising:
 - connecting a strainer to a first end of a hose;
 - submerging said strainer in a source of water; and
 - connecting a second end of said hose to a tank.
19. The method of claim 18 wherein said strainer comprises:
 - a substantially closed, submergible, hollow structure enclosing a volume of space;
 - a hose connector mounted to said hollow structure over a first opening in said hollow structure to allow connection of said hose to said strainer; and
 - at least one sieve-like material mounted to said hollow structure over at least a second opening in said hollow structure to allow said water to be taken into said hollow structure from said source while being sieved of foreign objects.
20. The method of claim 18 further comprising pumping said water from said source into said strainer through said hose and into said tank.

